

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 51
By Crutchfield

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize sculptor John R. Henry
and celebrate his life-long commitment to art.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary talent and steadfast efforts, have distinguished themselves in their respective fields, and we are pleased to specially recognize those talented citizens of this State whose creative abilities find outlet and expression through art; and

WHEREAS, John R. Henry is one such estimable artist, who has distinguished himself as a professional of great dedication, creative ability, and resolute integrity; and

WHEREAS, born in 1943, Mr. Henry attended the University of Kentucky, the University of Chicago, and the Art Institute of Chicago where he received an Edward L. Ryerson Fellowship and earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree; Mr. Henry also received an honorary Doctorate of Arts from the University of Kentucky in 1996; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Henry is currently Distinguished Professor of Art at Chattanooga State College; he has also taught as visiting professor of sculpture at the University of Iowa, the University of Wisconsin, the University of Chicago, and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, John Henry has actively promoted the arts by serving as a member of the Advisory Board of Lawyers for the Creative Arts in Chicago, coordinator and advisor for Chicago's "Sculpture in the Parks Exhibition," advisor to the Art Council of Greater New Orleans for the "Super Sculpture New Orleans" Exhibition, a member of the Board of Trustees and in other leadership roles with the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts, and Chairman of the Board of the International Sculpture Center; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Henry was a founding member of ConStruct, an artist-owned gallery that promoted and organized large scale sculpture exhibitions throughout the United States, and he currently serves as the Curator of the Outdoor Museum of Art at Chattanooga State College; and

WHEREAS, known worldwide for his magnificent large-scale public works of art, John Henry has recently exhibited such monumental scale works as “New Monuments” at the Laumeier Sculpture Park in St. Louis, Missouri and “Back on the Plaza” on Chicago’s Magnificent Mile; and

WHEREAS, John Henry has received numerous awards, grants, and fellowships, including the Ford Foundation Educational Grant for the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, National Endowment for the Arts Individual Artist Grant (1975), National Endowment for the Arts Works of Art in Public Places, Florida Individual Artists Fellowship (1990), the Kentucky Governor’s National Award in the Arts (2002), and the 2004 Chattanooga Mayor’s Award of Distinction in the Arts; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Henry’s sculptures are featured in many museum collections, galleries, outdoor collections, and private collections, including those of Northwestern University, the British Museum, and the Smithsonian, the public collections of Chicago and Pittsburgh, and many other countries such as China and Germany; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Henry’s excellence and innovative spirit as an artist are only surpassed by his dedication and commitment to the highest ideals of public service; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly desires to seize this golden opportunity to honor and recognize the sculptor, John Henry, for his creative artwork and exceptional public service; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we recognize and applaud John Henry for his dedication and commitment to art, express our profound appreciation for his work, and offer him our best wishes for every success and satisfaction in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.